

News Release

January 13, 2010

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The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California has announced the selection of Professor Donna M. Ryu for a full-time U.S. magistrate judge position to be located in Oakland. Professor Ryu has served on the faculty of the University of California, Hastings College of the Law since 2002, where she taught and supervised students in the Hastings Civil Justice Clinic. Prior to joining the Hastings faculty, Professor Ryu was Associate Professor of Law and Associate Director of the Women's Employment Rights Clinic at Golden Gate University of Law in San Francisco. She began her legal career in appellate practice with McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen, before joining the law firm formerly known as Saperstein, Seligman, Mayeda & Larkin, where she litigated civil rights class actions on behalf of plaintiffs. She later co-founded Ryu, Dickey & Larkin, a civil rights firm in Oakland, California. Professor Ryu graduated from Yale University and Berkeley Law School, where she was a founding member of the Berkeley Women's Law Journal (now Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice).

Professor Ryu has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Asian American Bar Association's Joe Morozumi Award for Exceptional Legal Advocacy, the California Lawyer of the Year ("CLAY") Award for Employment Law; and The Rutter Award for Excellence in Teaching, presented annually to the top Hastings professor for teaching excellence. She has also been honored by the Korean American Bar Association of Northern California, the California Employment Lawyers Association, and the Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation. She has written and lectured extensively on the subject of employment law, including presentations before the American Bar Association, the National Academy of Arbitrators, the California State Bar, and the Bar Association of San Francisco.

Professor Ryu is the daughter of Korean immigrants. She and her partner, Barbara Dickey, live in the East Bay. She has one daughter.

Professor Ryu is slated to commence her judicial duties on March 1, 2010.